



NIFHS News 39 - January 2022

**"January looks forward to the new year and back to the old year.
He sees past and future."**

M.L. Stedman

Dear Members,

Happy New Year to you all from NIFHS. Another year has rolled round and there is still plenty going on to help with your research.

Have you used the 1921 census of England and Wales yet? I would be very interested to know how you got on and what you think about it. I have heard varied reports but have only had a quick look so far myself.

Keeping with the English records theme, you will find some information in this month's Newsletter about a seven-year project which is being undertaken by the Church of England. It will help those of us with English connections.

Closer to home the NIFHS Spring School timetable is here. There really is something for everyone.

Another set of church records, those of Wellington Street Presbyterian Church, Ballymena, have been added to NIFHS Look-up service. Our thanks to the Project Team.

For those of you who have ancestors in Northwest Tyrone, details of the Bready Ancestry website will be of interest. It's been back up and running for a few months after a refit and it's better than ever.

Remember the Ex Libris competition doesn't close until the end of March and do keep Zooming into branch meetings and events. It has been great to meet so many of our associate members face to face. I was speaking to one of associates a couple of weeks ago by telephone, he is a member of several family history societies, and he said ours was the friendliest. If you haven't Zoomed in, why wait? There'll be a warm welcome for you. We have even changed the times of some of the events to accommodate different world zones.

Our 'Belfast' book is flying off the shelves, if you haven't got yours yet the place to go is the NIFHS shop.

To make life a little easier, here's a reminder of the NIFHS website links -

Spring School	www.nifhs.org/courses/
Look-up Service	www.nifhs.org/resources/look-up-service/
Events Calendar	www.nifhs.org/events/
NIFHS Shop	www.nifhs.org/shop/

Finally, if you have anything for the Newsletter, here we are - newsletter@nifhs.org

Enjoy the read,

Evelyn B2513



SPRING SCHOOL 2022 CLASSES AT NIFHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING!

Spring School classes start on Thursday 3rd February and run through to Tuesday 3rd May, covering a wide range of topics.

Getting started

If you are new to Irish genealogy, you won't want to miss our beginners' courses - find out about the best websites to use, NIFHS resources and how to organise your information.

Digging deeper

Hone your research skills in a series of classes each focusing on a different record set - JSTOR, PRONI, Griffiths Valuation, Scottish online records and emigration to Australia and New Zealand.

Family Tree Maker

Join the experts from Family Tree Maker for an interactive, live question and answer session, find out how to create amazing charts, graphs and family history books using their Plug-ins and hear how FTM can help you discover additional finds with your DNA results.

Look-Up Service

Your opportunity to visit the NIFHS Research Centre via Zoom in November was also popular, so we are repeating this. Come along and find out about some of the records held in the Society's library and how you can request a Look-Up Service.

And don't worry, we haven't forgotten about DNA!!

In the Family Finder class, learn how to use FamilyTree DNA tools to further your research and how X matches can verify your matches. Another class will take you through the basics of DNA on Ancestry and yet another will give you Five Top Tips to analyse your DNA. If you haven't yet taken a DNA test, don't miss our free talk on what types of tests are available, how they can help you to find relatives and how the results can prove your existing tree.

Some classes are free, single classes are £10 and two-session classes are £15 - all are online.

We look forward to seeing you at Spring School 2022.

For more information and to book, visit the NIFHS website at -



www.nifhs.org/courses/



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SPRING SCHOOL 2022 CLASS TIMETABLE

Thursday 3 & 17 Feb 9am	Strictly for Beginners Audrey McKeown
Thursday 3 & 17 Feb 2pm	Strictly for Beginners Audrey McKeown
Thursday 10 Feb 9am	More Online Resources for Genealogy and Family History Audrey McKeown and Mike McKeag
Thursday 10 Feb 2pm	More Online Resources for Genealogy and Family History Audrey McKeown and Mike McKeag
Wednesday 23 Feb & 2 Mar 7pm	Family Finder Martin McDowell
Friday 11 Mar 7pm	Valuation Records Anne Johnston
Tuesday 15 Mar 7pm	An Introduction to Scottish Online Records Chris Paton
Wednesday 23 Mar 7pm	NIFHS Look Up Service NIFHS Volunteers
Thursday 24 Mar 7pm	What's New in Family Tree Maker - Q & A Discussion Mark Olson, Stefan Harms and Pierre Clouthier (from Family Tree Maker)
Friday 25 Mar 2pm	Emigration to Australia and New Zealand Mike McKeag
Friday 25 Mar 7pm	PRONI Online Records Andrew Kane
Thursday 7 Apr 7pm	Using Ancestry DNA Martin McDowell
Saturday 23 Apr 11am	DNA Day - Free Beginner's Talk Martin McDowell
Tuesday 3 May 7pm	Five Top Tips for analysing your DNA Anne Johnston



LOOK-UP SERVICE

Wellington Street Presbyterian Church, Ballymena, Co. Antrim

The baptism records for Wellington Street Presbyterian Church have now been transcribed. They run from 1863-1902, with a few before that date.

There are no father's occupations recorded in the records, but mothers' maiden names are recorded consistently throughout, with few exceptions.

Many of these records seem to have been copied at some time, probably from an old register, as there are names that have been recorded incorrectly, but the shape of the word is the same. This became clear when the records were sorted alphabetically and grouped in families. There are also entries with 2 surnames in the Surname column of the register, and when checking these against Civil Registration it showed that one of the surnames was actually the child's second forename, often the mother's maiden name.

Most of the families lived in Ballymena and surrounding areas but there are 7 families giving Belfast as their address, 3 Glasgow and 2, (the CAIRNS and LETTERS families), America.

The baptism records are now available for "Look up" and have been printed for the library.

This adds to our transcriptions of the three other Presbyterian Churches in Ballymena:

1st Ballymena Baptisms 1812-1901, Marriages 1814-1819 and 1840-1845

2nd Ballymena, High Kirk Baptisms 1813-1921

3rd Ballymena, West Church Baptisms 1829-1900, Marriages 1830-1832

Sandra Ardis
Projects Co-ordinator

TYRONE CONNECTIONS?

The Bready Ancestry website has a lot to offer if you have any connection to the north-west of Co Tyrone. The website has a searchable genealogical database containing nearly 30,000 individual records relating to the families who lived in the townlands of Bready over the past 400 years. Records from churches, burial grounds, schools, and the Abercorn Estate, to name but a few, are available on the website. **Access is free.** The website was updated in 2021 and plays an important role in the work of the Bready & District Ulster Scots Development Association.



Have a look at - www.breadyancestry.com



CHURCH OF ENGLAND GRAVEYARD MAPPING PROJECT

Back in August 2021 the Church of England moved to the second phase of their National Burial Grounds Survey. Phase 1 saw the creation of a digital map and database of burial grounds in England, accessible through the Church Heritage Record -

www.facultyonline.churchofengland.org/churches

The record contains over 16,000 entries on church buildings and burial grounds in England. This second phase will record the grave memorials and, eventually, every grave memorial in every Anglican churchyard in the country will be listed. The new free web-based record system is due to launch next spring, with the option to subscribe to additional services. The project is due to take about seven years to complete.

To quote Andrew Rumsey, the C of E's lead bishop for church buildings.

"This impressive national project will make a huge difference to those researching family history. It will soon be possible to visit almost any Anglican burial ground in the country and see in real time the location of burial plots. For those researching at distance in the UK or overseas, the digital records will place detailed information from churchyards at their fingertips."

AND FINALLY ...

Some freebies I may have mentioned before but worth repeating.

Irish Lives Remembered Digital Magazine is completely free. I have signed up to it and have found no problems so far, just loads of interesting information - www.irishlivesremembered.ie

On the theme of free magazines, check your local public library service for access to their e-Magazine service. Librariesni uses the Libby or Overdrive apps. Why buy a subscription to a magazine when you can read it for free on your PC, laptop, or phone?

The 6th of January saw the launch of the 1921 census for England and Wales but did you know that the next day the revised 1821 census for Co Cavan with around 80,000 records became available? Have a look if you have connections to Cavan - www.cavantownlands.com

That's all folks. I hope you have enjoyed the first edition of 2022. Let me know either way -

newsletter@nifhs.org

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